

I should like to thank Rob Heckford for identifying so many of my micros which I exhibited at the Annual Exhibition, and Dr John Langmaid for confirmation of the status of the species mentioned above which were all new to the Isle of Wight.—SAM KNILL-JONES, Roundstone, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9AL.

***Crambus silvella* (Hb.) (Lep.: Pyralidae) new to South Wiltshire (VC 8)**

On 2 July 2002, a specimen of *Crambus silvella* was taken at Plaitford Common, O.S. grid reference SU 2718. According to Palmer (2001. *The Microlepidoptera of Wiltshire*), this species has not been previously recorded in South Wiltshire (VC 8). In an attempt to prevent possible confusion it should be noted that much of Plaitford Common is in VC 8, but also in the modern administrative county of Hampshire.—M. H. SMITH, 42 Bellefield Crescent, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8SR.

Notes of interest on Butterflies in the Isle of Wight during 2002

The Spring of 2002 was very forward, causing some exceptionally early records of Lepidoptera (see Knill-Jones, 2002. *Ent. Rec.* **114**: 155-153), but followed by a dull and damp June. It was warm and sunny with below average rainfall from mid-July to the end of September, and this caused several examples of partial second and third broods of some of our butterflies. John Rowell saw a Dark Green Fritillary *Argynnis aglaja* L. at Parkhurst on 16 May 2002, which, as far as I can tell, is the earliest ever date that this species has been observed in the British Isles.

There was a small second brood of the Small Blue *Cupido minimus* Fues., which I observed on Afton Down from 15-24 July and a similar second brood of the Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages* L. seen there from 7 to 21 August. Three second-brood Pearl-bordered Fritillary *Boloria euphrosyne* L. were seen at Parkhurst on 2 August and a further one on 4 August. There was also a partial second brood of the Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae* L. I saw one on Afton Down on 29 June and John Rowell saw a much later one on 8 August at Arreton Down. A very late Large Skipper *Ochlodes venata* (Brem & Grey) was seen on 25 August on Mottistone Common. A partial third brood of the Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus* Rott. was observed on Afton Down between 28 September and 12 October, when I saw some freshly emerged specimens of both sexes.

The Clouded Yellow *Colias croceus* Geoffroy had a very good year, with the first being seen on 16 April on Brading Down and the last at Ventnor on 18 November. I usually saw several every time I visited Afton Down from the beginning of August to early November although I did not see one f. *helice*. A Camberwell Beauty *Nymphalis antiopa* L. was seen nectaring at a Bramble flower at Beckfield Gross, Chale Green on 28 July.—SAM KNILL-JONES, Roundstone, 2 School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9AL.